

NCTS Far East named best worldwide

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This year the Naval Network and Space Operations Command recognized the hard work and dedication demonstrated by the members of Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station Far East and awarded NCTS FE the Communications Information Technology Excellence award for fiscal year 2005, naming it the Telecommunication Station of the Year.

The CITE award recognizes a command's ability to carry out its assigned peacetime and wartime missions and to perform as an effective part of the fleet's mission-essential shore support team. It is presented to master stations, telecommunication stations and communication detachments that fall under the NNSOC claimancy. The winners of this award have demonstrated the highest degree of professionalism and the expertise characteristic of Sailors and civilians attached to winning commands.

Cmdr. Tina Swallow, commander of Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station Far East, said about her more-than 800 person command, "It is truly an honor to receive the Naval Network and Space Operations Command 2005 CITE Station of the Year award. This award tells everyone that our team is indeed the best Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station in the world," she said. "It is our Battle 'E' and a testimonial to the dedication and professionalism of the Sailors and civilians that make up NCTS FE. This award recognizes the

tremendous growth of our command in the last year with the assumption of base networks as well as the rollout of ONE-NET."

NCTS Far East has such a large area of responsibility and provides such a wide variety of services that the excellence recognized by the CITE award is actually a recognition of the NCTS Far East team as a whole, not just of a few individuals. NCTS Far East's success was a result of the hard work and dedication of a team of DoD civilians, Japanese Master Labor contract workers, Sailors and contractors stationed throughout the region. Whether they were stationed in Diego Garcia, Guam, Singapore, Korea or anywhere in Japan, the CITE award is their award.

NCTS FE earned the award by displaying an ability to serve their customers beyond expectations and improve efficiency in mission readiness. Members of NCTS FE met the challenge to be of the highest caliber, presenting great technical, personal and physical readiness. High morale is evident by the high retention of its members. Every aspect of operational and material readiness for the command measured above and beyond the CITE award requirements.

NCTS FE won the CITE award in the midst of dramatic change which is expected in the rapidly changing world of information technology. In 2005, NCTS Far East gained increased capability and responsibility by merging with the Information Technology Service Center Far East and the various base information technology

operating centers throughout the region. This merger enabled the establishment of the OCONUS Navy Enterprise Network, also known as ONE-NET.

NCTS FE was originally commissioned as Naval Communication Facility, Yokosuka in January 1951. NAVCOMFAC moved to Kamiseya, Japan in December of that year. NAVCOMFAC moved back to Yokosuka in 1960 and was re-designated U.S. Naval Communication Station, Japan. To acknowledge the increasing confidence the Navy had in computers and telecommunications, the command was renamed again in 1991. The station was designated Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station, Japan, acquiring smaller stations in Atsugi, Sasebo and detachments in Okinawa and Misawa. In 1993, control of base communication offices in Atsugi, Sasebo and Yokosuka were transferred to NCTS, Japan. The station was once again renamed as Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station, Far East when it acquired the communication detachment in Chinhae, Korea.

The NNSOC was formed in July 2002 by merging Naval Space Command and Naval Network Operations Command. This command has the duty of maintaining and operating the Navy's space and global telecommunication systems around the world, and is in direct support of war-fighting operations. Through NNSOC, the Navy is able to use information, space technologies and expertise and achieve and maintain knowledge superiority, which is essential for battlefield domination.

Kanto Plain Seabees celebrate 64th birthday

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Recently, the Kanto Plain Seabees held their annual Seabee ball at Club Trilogy at Naval Air Facility Atsugi. This year's celebration commemorated the 64th anniversary of the Seabees and the 139th anniversary of the Civil Engineer Corps. This was also the 164th Birthday for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC). Approximately 200 servicemembers, families and friends from Atsugi, Yokosuka, Kamiseya, Fuji and Misawa joined the special celebration.

The CEC, established in 1867, is responsible for designing, constructing and maintaining shore facilities needed to support the U.S. Navy around the world. Ports, piers, warehouses, shipyards, airfields and other facilities required have been provided through their leadership and personal efforts.

The Seabees were established in 1942 as a vital part of the United States military. In World War II, alone, more than 325,000 Seabees served in a variety of roles, enduring adverse weather conditions and enemy fire.

The host for the evening was Lt. j.g. Phillip Hamrock of the public works department of Naval Air Facility Atsugi. As the Master of Ceremonies, Hamrock kept everyone entertained while maintaining the formal aspect of the ceremony. Guest speaker Capt. Christopher J. Honkomp, commanding officer of NAVFAC Far East, emphasized the importance of the team concept for the CEC and Seabees.

"The Seabees are able to go into areas and do operations that are not appropriate for civilian contractors or civil service personnel," said Capt. Honkomp. "All across the Far East and all across NAVFAC, we are supporting individual augmentees in the global world on terrorism. The intent is to help build stability in these areas until civilian personnel



Oldest Seabee, CEC Alejandro C. Bautista from Naval Air Facility Atsugi, and youngest Seabee, BUCN Daniel A. McCluskey, also from Atsugi, perform the traditional cutting of the cake.

[Photo by Yasuko Nakamura, NAVFAC Far East Public Affairs]

and contractors can take over. Eventually, the host nation countries will have the ability to provide their own support and those Seabees and CEC officers will be able to turn over responsibility to those governments and go home. But even as the combat operations decline, the demand for Seabees and CEC officers continues to grow. Up to this point, NAVFAC has sent over 100 individual augmentees to support Operation Iraqi Freedom and as late as this weekend we received additional requirements."

At the conclusion of Honkomp's remarks, attendants sung the traditional "Song of Seabees," and the oldest and youngest Seabees cut the birthday cake. After the formal portion of the ceremony ended, participants danced and participated in a nail-driving competition and tricycle race.



BU3 Ace Brackett of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4, participates in the tricycle race and wins the first prize.

[Photo by Fumi Ishibashi, NAVFAC Far East Management Office]